

## Star Wars

### Wizard's RPG Stories

source : <http://www.wizards.com/default.asp?x=starwars/newsarchive>  
upload : 10.IV.2006

#### Academic Review

By Morrie Mullins

An anonymous source posts a report to Cularin's Holonet - - a report supposedly written by a review committee from Coruscant, which may (or may not) bode ill for the Jedi Academy on Almas. See what the slicers think in this supplement to the Living Force campaign, a tie-in to the latest scenario, "Decision: Almas."

{{posttime 22:14:53}}

{{postdate [yesterday]}}

{{userid mstrslcr}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node qd3.199.x}}

Hey. I held on to this for about two days, trying to figure out what to do with it. I was practicing decrypting and snagged this in transit from Almas to Coruscant. The encryption was good. Pretty snarled, in a standard kind of way. Not much of a thing to slice it.

Here's the visitation. I didn't know if I should post it because I don't even know if it's real. All I know, it's just another bunch of Force-hating crazies. But I also got no love for the Jedi. I figure, best thing to do is post it. People can figure out for themselves if it's legit.

[Begin decrypted message; origination node AJA2.273; destination node 000.JT3.000]

Esteemed colleagues:

The review is nearly complete. Interviews have been conducted with each of the principals and with a large number of subordinates. Analysis of the qualitative data will take time we may not have, given the state of things throughout the galaxy, and trends are present that suggest immediate action may be required. We group these trends into three recurring themes, which we have extracted from our data. These are as follow: lack of leadership presence; inconsistent visioning; and policy avoidance.

The issue of lack of leadership presence is one that most of our interviewees attempted to avoid. When they did speak of it, they spoke of the ongoing war effort, and the necessity to pull from local resources to meet needs in other areas of the galaxy, and avoided the question of the leadership that has handled operations in this system for better than a decade. The attempts to deflect attention from the shortcomings of the current leader to

problems that originate in the situation is typical of locations where subordinates have ceased to critically evaluate their superiors. While we will stop short of referring to any brainwashing that has gone on here, it is clear to us that the subordinates are not clearly thinking for themselves. Many of them become agitated when asked direct questions about the shortcomings of the current leadership, denying that any problems exist. However, on further question, many do note that the leadership can seem "remote" at times, or "distracted." As one interviewee said, "He has a lot on his mind. Lots of things are happening, and we can't expect him to be paying attention to us all the time. The galaxy's bigger than just us, you know?" All the same, under appropriate questioning, this issue recurred sufficiently that we deem it a problem. To the extent that current leadership is distracted by events outside the primary job assignment, it may be that a change in leadership is necessary.

The issue of inconsistent visioning is again one that many subordinate-level interviewees deny being a problem. The core of this issue is that the approach taken to making decisions and otherwise leading our operations within Cularin has not always followed a linear path. When challenges present themselves, rather than utilizing existing means of problem resolution, it is more common for leadership to assign responsibility to less-qualified subordinates. Such assignments are generally described as "training," but they often involve very real risks to the subordinates who are involving themselves in situations that are often well out of their capacity to influence, much less control. Whether current local leadership would be able to adequately address the problems without assigning them to subordinates is unclear, as this does not generally get attempted. However, the means by which assignments are made, as well as the strategic alliances that must be formed by the subordinates in order to accomplish their tasks, do not reflect a consistent approach to how to conduct our work. If the training of our subordinates does not adopt a standard model, how can we presume that the work we do will ultimately have meaning? The vision adopted in training and developing the next generation must be accomplished in as consistent a manner as possible, in order to ensure continuity of identity. Perhaps most troubling is the lack of appreciation from the subordinates that they are being short-changed. The "loose" nature of their developmental experiences seems to have empowered them, or at least provided them with the illusion of empowerment. In our judgment, this makes them dangerous, and potentially difficult to control.

The third issue is one of policy avoidance. Put bluntly, there are policies created by yourselves and your forerunners that were designed to minimize operational difficulties. To a large extent, our operation in Cularin ignores many of these policies, choosing to do things in its own way. It might appear that all blame should lie with the current leader. However, we have come to see that this is a more pervasive issue that permeates all levels of the local organization. It is something of a mass delusion, in which policies that have worked well for us over multiple generations are suddenly viewed as "optional." Subordinates should not be empowered, however. Nor should policies be treated as optional. Had you meant for them to be optional, it is the committee's opinion that you would not have made them policies. Perhaps they might have been suggestions, or "good ideas." But not policies. Policies are things we expect to have followed, and which, when they are not followed, produce aversive consequences. In our opinion, the local operation has been given too much autonomy and too few aversive consequences. The lack of oversight has allowed non-policy initiatives to spiral out of control,

resulting in an operation that does not typify (or, one might argue, even remotely represent) our central focus. Again, we find reason to recommend that the operation within Cularin be subject to much deeper scrutiny.

It may be that you, our esteemed colleagues, find the timing of this report to be poor. There are many other issues that deserve our attention, and spending too much time on this might be foolish. It is our opinion, however, that the problems we have observed regarding the leadership of our operation within Cularin, and its approach to both visioning and policy, are inconsistent with our overarching goals. To fix this problem would require significant time and resource expenditure, neither of which we have. As such, we recommend the closing of our facility in Cularin, and the immediate transfer of all personnel to the various temporary operation centers we have established.

[End decrypted message]

{{posttime 23:02:21}}

{{postdate [yesterday]}}

{{userid wampal}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node all.r911}}

So wait I don't understand, is this about jedi or what because what U said at first said something about jedi - this is a bunch of corpspeak and I didn't get it, but I bet those nodes are pretty easy to figure out - aja = almas jedi academy and jt = jedi temple, right?

UR friend, wampal

p.s. is 'vision' a verb?

{{posttime 23:33:14}}

{{postdate [yesterday]}}

{{userid alyssaroxu}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node a889.m889}}

Whoa - the wampanator's back! It's been months since we heard a peep out of your sharp-as-a-puddle brain, wampal! And again, you prove your inestimable worth to the online community by pointing out that which could only have eluded the synaptically-impaired. But slice this: Those "nodes" you decided to interpret for us? We've got no databit history to show that they're anything other than spacedust. Seriously. Anybody could have dropped those values into the posting before making it public.

That being said, I've got my doubts. I mean, there's nothing in here to say who's even being talked about. No names, no mention of Jedi - wampal's got that right.

Gack. I can't believe I just said that. Even worse, I think his last

question is right, too - is 'vision' a verb? I don't think it is.

Alyssa Future Apprentice to Baylan

{{posttime 00:00:23}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid tharestinx}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node 0.0.0}}

I dunno what everyone's talking about. It's nothing but more Thaereian plots. See, I told you all along! I told you about them, but did people listen? No! And now look at where we are. This is just a way for Thaere to mess with everyone inside Cularin. Nobody remembers that whole destabilization doc that got posted a while back? Huh? Look how it's wrote. It's like, it could be anybody who does anything in Cularin. It's all part of the Thaereian plan, and you're all falling for it. Not me! Never me! Losers!

{{posttime 01:13:31}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid wampal}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node c3.1s92}}

See Alyssa at least U finally figured out how smart wampal is. 'Wampanator' is a kewl name. I think I will use it now, too. Everybody else needs to figure out that wampal's smart. That rulz.

I think this is just a bogus thing that someone made up. Except if it's not, I think it is like the great Master Slicer said (you think he's like a Jedi slicer or something? HAHAHA!). The Jedi R in trouble.

UR friend, wampanator

{{posttime 01:35:31}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid alyssaroxu}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node c3.1s92}}

Right... dirt magnet, let's get one thing real clear. You are not my friend. Are you stupid or something? (Should I write that in your language? Would that help? Here: "R U stoopid or sumthing?") I just thought (hoped?) that you'd never show up around here again, after those pics of your mom showed up on that Yara program.

This isn't accomplishing anything. Anyone got a text analyzer we can run on this thing? I can whip one up, but it'll take a couple hours.

Alyssa Future Apprentice to Baylan

{{posttime 01:51:15}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid wampa1}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node c3.1s92}}

Alyssa U need to GET OFF MY NODE. I hate when U do that! R U dents? Look, I just wanted to put in my 2 creds, and I think if this is real then it's really bad for the Jedi. That's all.

{{posttime 02:03:22}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid h8thegam}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node h8.1995}}

'R U dents'

Huh? I had to read that like 5 times to figure out he was asking if she was dense, and not practicing a pickup line to use on a droid.

Can someone please frag the node that little punk is posting off, so we can discuss this thing with quiet?

{{posttime 02:05:38}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid daddy}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node c3.xxxx}}

Done.

{{posttime 03:33:33}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid l337b0i}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node a.a.2.3}}

Ran a text analyzer on this. Nothing special. It's a bunch of corp doublespeak. It doesn't read like other Jedi documentation. Not that this means much. If the Jedi wanted a review team, would they send folks who write like Jedi, or who write like they run businesses? But the language, the syntax, the flow - not typical Jedi writing. I mean, not a single fragging reference to the force.

{{posttime 03:42:19}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid puesday}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node s9.1a12}}

dropped it into a custom analyzer, with some samples from other corps nothing matching on the jedi 50% syntax match with military writing, so maybe there or even the cularin militia, but the context is wrong 63% match with sorosub here's the kicker - 87% match with the written documents I could get my hands on from the cartel seriously, can you imagine anybody but the cartel using 'vision' as a verb?

{{posttime 03:49:39}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid alyssaroxu}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node im.8thm}}

Nice. But isn't it the case that anybody can take a document and run it through a translator program to add in junk words? Maybe even make it match up with the style from another corp's documentation. I figured that out about an hour into writing my analyzer, then got hung up trying to figure out how to make the program pull from multiple databases and loop through both without starting to fuse chips. Starting to get tired, maybe I should just call it a night. I don't know what to think about who this is talking about. We're putting way too much thought into it.

Alyssa Exhausted Future Apprentice to Baylan

{{posttime 05:31:22}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid weluvcularin}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node mc1.111}}

Hello Cularin. On behalf of the effulgent and most non-abrasive Thurm Loogg, the Cartel officially denies any knowledge of any reports being submitted which may serve to undermine confidence in the Jedi. We are certain that no one has any cause to be thinking the Jedi are anything but capable and competent, despite the numbers of them that have died in recent months. We are equally certain that just because Master Lanius Qel-Bertuk has structured the Almas Academy in ways that directly violate key precepts of the Jedi Order, he will not be subject to any disciplinary action.

With great love and affection for Cularin,

Thurm Loogg and the Metatheran Cartel /ssd

{{posttime 06:00:00}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid holosrv}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node central1.02.a19}}

At 22:14:53 yesterday, materials were posted to this forum which potentially violated security parameters. Cularin holonet services hereby suspends this forum until further notice. Any individuals contributing further to this discussion will be brought in for questioning. Have a pleasant day.

{{posttime 06:44:53}}

{{postdate [today]}}

{{userid mstrslcr}}

{{postloc Cularin holonet node qd3.199.x}}

Um... oops?